



HARVEST TIMES

HARVEST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 14305 Covenant Way, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202 941-907-7333 | APRIL 2017

God is Not Done With Us Yet!

This is the time of year when every Major League Baseball fan believes their team has a chance to win a pennant. "Hope springs eternal!" is the optimistic mantra held by many in the month of April. Flowers are blooming and grass is greener as nature is coming into fullness. It makes sense that we celebrate Easter during spring's reawakening of life and hope. A work of the church is to share that all the earth declares the glory of God. The church remembers that this beautiful season each year reveals a truth even more eternal than fresh flowers or championship dreams.

Sometimes we are tempted to believe that the world is slipping deeper and deeper into chaos. It is true that there is plenty of brokenness around us. Some of the cracks are easily seen. Other fault lines have been deeply buried with hopes of remaining hidden. But Easter embodies the truth that God has been working to heal the fractures that came as result of the first humans turning their love inward. God's number one mission has been, and continues to be, to redeem this world. The last I checked, God has always been able to get the job done.

The last book of the bible, Revelation, isn't the kooky religious crystal ball that some have made it out to be. It is filled with encouragement, power, and hope. It is also a promise. "And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new'" (Revelation 21:5). Notice that God declares from the throne that the "making things new" is already in progress! Life is breaking out all over the place, especially where it is least expected. Easter is not only about light shining from the tomb where Jesus was laid, it is about new life springing out of your dark places and mine.

Celebrate with Harvest that God is not done with us yet! You are invited to experience Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter worship across our campuses throughout Holy Week. This is the most highly attended time of year for our church for a reason. People want to believe that there is hope. Praise God that we have the privilege to share the good news of hope in Jesus Christ!

May the Lord bless and keep,

Pastor Michael



WORSHIP AT HARVEST

LAKWOOD RANCH CAMPUS

14305 Covenant Way, Lakewood Ranch

Sunday 9 AM

Traditional Worship

Sunday 10:30 AM

Contemporary Worship

Sunday 5 PM

Harvest Youth HY5

BAYSHORE CAMPUS

Worshipping at Lee Middle School
4000 53rd Avenue West, Bradenton

Sunday 10:30 AM

WANT MORE?

facebook.com/harvestumc

harvestumc

harvestumc

welcometoharvest.org

info@welcometoharvest.org

HARVEST TEAM

Rev. Michael Pestel
Lead Pastor

Rev. Katie Pestel
Pastor

Rev. Jennifer Potter Buff
Bayshore Campus Pastor

Mark Bitner
Custodian

Jillanne Conelias
Sprouts CDC Associate Director

Reed Conley
Director of Worship Arts

Terry Cox
Executive Assistant to the Pastors

Carin Doddroe
Operations Administrative Assistant

Dan Funk
Comptroller

Stacey Gadeken
Discipleship Assistant

Alan Hensley
Facilities Manager

Mike Kennedy
Director of Discipleship
Interim Director of Operations

Bonnie McElravy
Children's Minister

Molly Lawson
Interim Youth Minister

Dave Lewis
Choral Music Director

Steve Maldonado
Bayshore Campus Worship Leader

Robert (Bob) Migliore
Custodian

M. E. Reich
Accompanist

Ginny Scott
Youth and Family Ministries Director,
Bayshore Campus

Cindee Shevlin
Sprouts CDC Director

Catherine Sykes
Youth and Children's Ministry
Administrative Assistant

Dan Whissell
Associate Worship Leader

Staff can be reached via email at
firstinitiallastname@welcometoharvest.org
(ex. jdoe@welcometoharvest.org)

HARVEST YOUTH

End of the Year Banquet

Mark your calendars! On Sunday, April 30 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. we will gather in the Harvest Centre to celebrate this year of HY5. This is a church-wide event that will include worship, a meal, and special time to recognize leaders, those who help HY5 run, and especially the 2017 seniors. The cost for the event is \$8 per person, no more than \$25 per family. We will also talk about Summer information and have forms available for our upcoming trips. Please RSVP to Ginny Scott at gscott@welcometoharvest.org by Sunday, April 16.

We Can't Wait For Summer!

June 19-23 Youth Week*

June 27-30 Middle School Mission Trip*

July 10-15 Warren Willis Summer Camp

July 22-29 High School Revive225 Mission Trip

August 6 Youth Sunday

Visit hyfive.org for more info.

* note date changes

SAVE THE DATE

Here are some dates to put
on your calendar now.
You won't want to miss these events.

Rising 6th Grade Sunday School Class

We are so excited about our current 5th graders who will be 6th graders in the fall! Starting Sunday, May 14 we will be starting a Sunday School class especially for them. During this time we will discover and discuss the five core values of HY5: Believe, Belong, Live, Love and Grow. This class will end on Sunday, June 18.



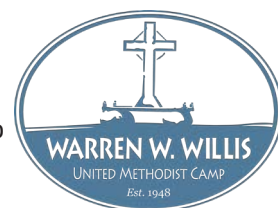
Parent Meeting

On April 2, we will be having a Parent Meeting immediately following the 10:30 service in room W202. We will discuss Summer Dates, have calendars available and have forms for our upcoming trips.

Summer Camp

Registration for Summer Camp is still open!

Students who are currently in 3rd-12th grade are invited to join us at Warren Willis Camp in Fruitland Park, Florida, on July 10-15. Find out more information and register online at warrenwilliscamp.org/register. Space fills up quickly, so we encourage you to register early!



HARVEST KIDS

LAKWOOD RANCH



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 12-16, 9 AM to 12 PM
Online Registration Opens April 3
welcometoharvest.org/events

This Summer come learn, create, play, sing and dance at the Maker Fun Factory!

SPROUTS

Creature Feature Summer Camp 2017



June 5-9 Ancient Giants

Who doesn't find dinosaurs cool and intriguing? We will roar like dinosaurs, stomp like dinosaurs and eat like dinosaurs! By the end of the week everyone will be a full-fledged paleontologist.

June 19-23 Who's Swimming By Me?

We will listen to waves and learn about big ocean animals like whales and small ones like sea horses. There will be lots of water play and crafts too!

June 26-30 Animals Around the World

Travel with us to 5 different continents where we will find the interesting and lovable animals, each one as unique as we are. If you like penguins, pandas and chameleons, you will love this week.

July 10-14 Nocturnal Buddies

Come learn what's going on while we sleep. We will play with worms in the dirt, hoot like an owl, and make frogs on a log for a snack! We won't stay up to observe these cool nighttime animals, but we will sure want to!

Camp hours are Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring a packed lunch! Children may attend camp for any or all sessions. Space is filled on a first-come, first-served basis. To attend camp, children should be between the ages of 3 and 6 by September 1, 2017.

Summer camp fees are as follows:

- \$30 non-refundable registration fee per family
- \$125 per session

Sign up at Hospitality Hub 1 beginning April 3, 2017.

Palm Sunday

CANTATA

Sunday April 9

9 & 10:30 AM SERVICES

Easter Sunday

AT HARVEST

Worship Services on Sunday April 16

6:30 **Outdoor Sunrise** Lakewood Ranch
8:00 **Outdoor**
9:00 **Traditional**
10:30 **Contemporary**
10:30 **Easter Service** Bayshore

VITAL SIGNS

The people of Harvest are sowing seeds of faith,
growing together in Christ

- < In March, we welcomed into membership 6 adults and 5 children
- < An average of 720 of us worshipped weekly across our two campuses
- < Bayshore Campus was awarded two monetary grants for new ministry
- < Drive Thru Ashes provided meaningful community engagement
- < We surprised 90+ Sprouts families on Ash Wednesday with a special celebration
- < 174 of us worshipped together on Ash Wednesday across our two campuses

People are giving generously! You can see our financial picture on April 15 at welcometoharvest.org.
For a full report of our Missional Vital Signs, go to tools.flumc.org/yearly.asp.